

Minutes  
**Labor-Management Advisory Council on  
Workers' Compensation**

April 13, 2007

1:30-2:30 pm

**Advisory council members present:** Lt. Governor John Bohlinger, Jason Miller, Annette Hoffman, Doug Buman, Jacquie Helt, Don Judge, Dan Lee, Riley Johnson, Connie Welsh, Bob Worthington, Jerry Keck

**Advisory council member excused:** Bill Dahlgren.

I. Approval of Agenda and Meeting Minutes

The minutes for the March 30th conference call and today's agenda were approved.

II. Status of Workers' Compensation Bills

Jerry Keck briefly reviewed this session's workers' compensation bills. Except for SB 426 which didn't come out of committee, all the work comp bills were either signed by the Governor or in the process of being transmitted to him.

The council members agreed to discontinue the weekly conference calls since their bill review work was done.

III. Agenda Items for Advisory Council Meeting in May

The next onsite meeting is scheduled for afternoon of May 15, following the NCCI State Advisory Forum. The time frame has been extended to 5:00 pm. The topic of medical/pharmacy fee schedules was added due to a July 1 timeline as a result of legislative action. Meeting topics:

- Summary of legislative action
- Safety/incident rate modeling
- Medical/pharmacy fee schedules
- Summary of insurer financial results by Mari Kindberg of the State Auditor's Office
- Workers' compensation exemptions and cost shifting
- Regulation/oversight of claims examiners

The following comments and suggestions were made by council members:

- Data was requested on what other study states have done on safety
- Invite legislators to the May meeting, especially the members of the business and labor committees
- Ensure that rate modeling reflects the reality of the workplace
- Include statistics from other states in the safety discussion to show if substance abuse was a factor or not
- Add attorney fees for denied claims to the council workplan and make it a priority discussion item at a future meeting
- Profile the types of claims for denials
- Determine the number of claims originally denied and ultimately approved
- Discuss the schedule for future meetings at the May meeting

IV. Public Comment  
None.

V. Next Steps  
Next Advisory Council meeting (onsite) – Tuesday, May 15, 1:30 – 5:00 pm